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ABSTRACT

This report presents statistics on enrollment of 3- to 5-year-old children in preprimary educational programs. One of a continuing series, this publication describes enrollments and enrollment rates as of October 1972. To determine the degree to which preprimary education has been accepted and to find out which children presently are benefiting from early education, enrollment rates are analyzed in terms of specific socioeconomic factors defined by the U. S. Bureau of the Census. It is hoped that this presentation will serve as a basic statistical reference for researchers in the field of early childhood education. It is hoped that the data will prove useful to those involved in planning and operating preprimary programs and facilities. (CS)

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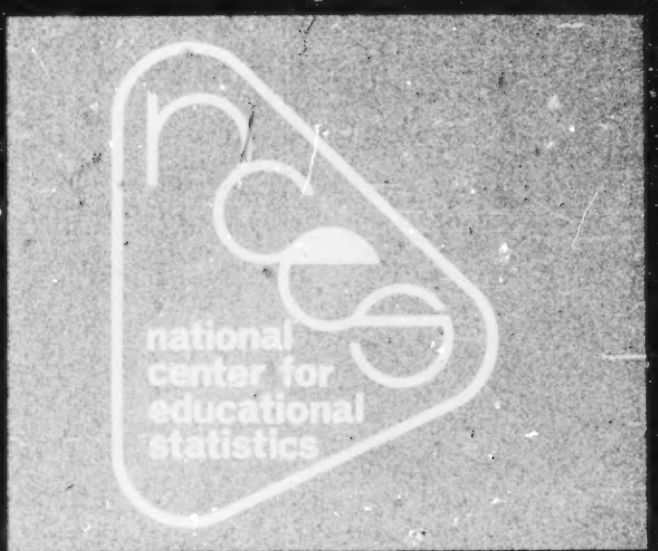
Preprimary Enrollment

October 1972



HIGHLIGHTS

Enrollment rates of 3- to 5-year-olds.--In October 1972, 15.5 percent of the Nation's 3-year-olds, 33.5 percent of the 4-year-olds, and 76.1 percent of the 5-year-olds were enrolled in preprimary programs. The combined enrollment of children in this age group was 41.6 percent, the highest ever reported.

Control.--At the prekindergarten level about one-third of the enrollment was in publicly operated programs. Over four-fifths of the children attending kindergarten were in programs operated under public control.

Length of session.--Less than 20 percent of the enrolled white children attended full-day preprimary sessions while half of the Negro enrollees attended sessions extending through both the morning and afternoon.

Residence.--Enrollment rates for 3- to 5-year-olds were highest in metropolitan areas outside of the central city and were lowest in nonmetropolitan areas.

Family characteristics.--Children most likely to be enrolled were members of families in which the annual income was $10,000 or more. Enrollment rates were also highest for those in families where the household head was engaged in a white-collar occupation and had completed 4 or more years of college.

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PREPRIMARY ENROLLMENT

October 1972

by
Linda A. Barker
Elementary and Secondary
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FOREWORD

This report is one in a continuing series presenting statistics on enrollment of 3- to 5-year-old children in preprimary educational programs. The series was established by the Office of Education in 1964 in response to the expressed concern of educators about the importance of early childhood education. This most recent edition of "Preprimary Enrollment" describes enrollments and enrollment rates for October 1972.

In the opinion of many educators, the proper preparation of children ages 3 to 5 for formal schooling is one of the significant factors determining their success or failure in the educational system. They believe that organized preprimary programs are of particular importance for children raised in less advantaged home surroundings, and that participation in preprimary programs readies such children socially, psychologically, and physically for the experiences and demands they will encounter in the elementary grades. In an attempt to determine the degree to which preprimary education has been accepted and which children presently are benefiting from what it has to offer, enrollment rates are analyzed here by selected socioeconomic factors defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

It is hoped that this presentation will serve as a basic statistical reference for researchers in the field of early childhood education. It is also hoped that the data will prove useful to those involved in planning and operating preprimary programs and facilities.

Roy C. Nehrt, Chief
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INTRODUCTION

During the past decade, increasing emphasis has been placed on introducing children to formalized education before the traditional age of 6. Experiences during these early years of a child's development are significant in determining his later success in school. Research has shown that intensive intellectual stimulation of children 3 to 5 years old in an organized educational environment reflects on their later learning abilities.

Early educational experiences have been found to be particularly important for children growing up in an atmosphere of poverty. Such children are in particular need of preparation for entry into primary-level schooling. Enrollment in preprimary education programs assists these children by introducing them to the modes of social behavior that will be expected in later learning situations and by preparing them to be receptive to new concepts they will encounter. Frequently, these programs also serve to insure that enrolled children receive the proper nutrition required to meet the basic physical demands of attending school.

As a result of the greater stress placed by educators on early learning experiences, enrollment in preprimary programs has been increasing. The U.S. Office of Education publishes an annual report analyzing the enrollment of children 3 to 5 years old by various socioeconomic factors, thus making available information on total enrollment in preprimary programs and information on the types of children benefiting from these programs.

Timely and accurate data are needed by educational researchers and administrators in this area. Such data are also of interest to the general public as a source of basic information.

SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF THE DATA

This report is concerned with the enrollment of children 3 to 5 years old in organized public and nonpublic education programs. Participation of children in programs offering essentially custodial care is excluded from the report. The data are based upon information collected by the U.S. Bureau of the Census in its October 1972 Current Population Survey. This survey covers a sample spread over 449 areas comprising 863 counties and independent cities, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. Approximately 47,000 occupied households were eligible for interview. Of this number, 2,000 occupied units were visited but interviews were not obtained because the occupants were not at home after repeated calls, or were unavailable for some other reason. In addition to the 47,000, about 8,000 sample units were visited but were found to be vacant or otherwise not to be interviewed.

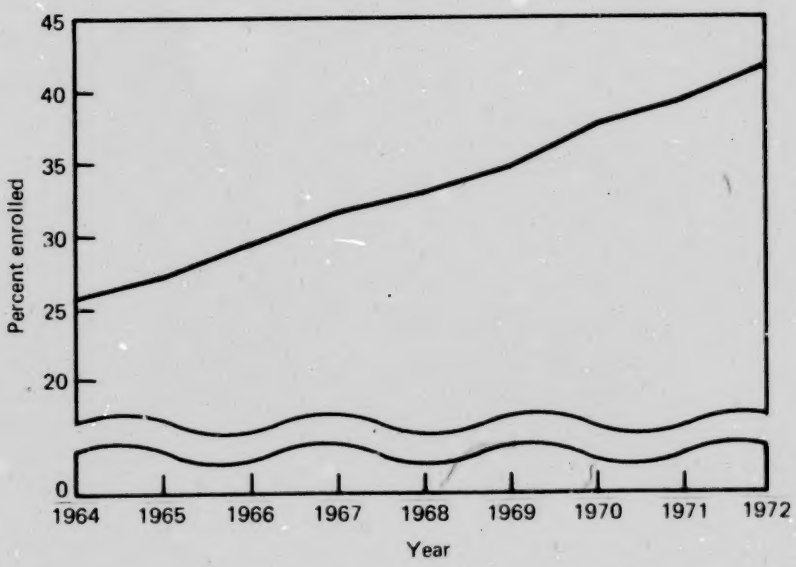
The estimating procedure used in this survey involves the inflation of the weighted sample results to independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, sex, and race. Since the figures shown in this report are based on sample data, they may differ from figures that would have been obtained from a complete census. Tables of standard errors included in the appendix give an indication of the degree of sampling variability. The reader is cautioned that sampling variation may be relatively large where the numbers shown are small.

Individual figures are rounded to the nearest thousand without being adjusted to group totals, which are independently rounded. Hence, detail may not add to totals.

ANALYSIS OF THE OCTOBER 1972 DATA

Since 1964 the percent of children 3 to 5 years old enrolled in preprimary programs has steadily increased. Figure 1 illustrates an average 2-percent rise for each year's enrollment rate above that of the previous year over a 9-year period. The actual number of children enrolled in preprimary programs increased by 1,044,000 since 1964, reaching a high of 4,231,000 enrolled in 1972. Decreases in the size of the population of children 3 to 5 years old tend to magnify increases in the preprimary enrollment rate. In 1965 the population of 3- to 5-year-olds began a decline which has continued to October 1972. The net loss in population between October 1964, the earliest date for which preprimary enrollment rates are presented, and October 1972 was 2,330,000.

Figure 1—Percent of children 3 to 5 years old enrolled in preprimary programs: United States. 1964-1972



The preprimary enrollment rate tends to be highest among 5-year-olds, with 2,575,000 (76.1 percent) of the children this age enrolled in 1972. The next highest enrollment rate was for 4-year-olds, with 1,121,000 (33.5 percent) enrolled, and the lowest for 3-year-olds, with 535,000 (15.5 percent) enrolled (table 1). While the percent of children enrolled increased for each of these age groups between 1971 and 1972, the actual number of children enrolled increased only among 3-year-olds and 4-year-olds. The number of 5-year-olds enrolled declined by 96,000 between the two years.

In October 1972 there were 2,954,000 children attending kindergarten. Enrollment in kindergarten as a percent of the population of 3- to 5-year-olds was 29.1 percent. The actual number of children enrolled at this level of preprimary school decreased by 3.5 percent between 1971 and 1972. The enrollment rate for these two years did not show any significant change, although, at 29.1 percent, it was higher than in previous years. In 1972, 5-year-olds comprised 85.0 percent of all kindergarten enrollment.

At the prekindergarten level both the number and percent of children enrolled reached a high of 1,277,000, or 12.6 percent of the population of 3- to 5-year-olds. Ninety-five percent of the enrollment was distributed among 3- and 4-year-olds, with 507,000 3-year-olds in prekindergarten and 706,000 4-year-olds.

When the overall enrollment rates for all white and Negro 3- to 5-year-olds are examined, little appreciable difference is noticed between the rates for the two races. However, as in previous years, enrollment in preprimary programs was higher for Negro 3- and 4-year-olds (19.8 percent and 37.1 percent, respectively) than for white children of the same ages (15.0 percent and 32.9 percent, respectively). In contrast, enrollment rates were higher for white 5-year-olds (76.7 percent) than for Negro 5-year-olds (71.8 percent).

Most enrollment of children 3 to 5 years old was in preprimary programs in October 1972; however, an additional 9.3 percent of the 5-year-old population was enrolled at the primary level of school in 1972 (315,000 children). Primary-level enrollment of 5-year-olds is a factor of State attendance laws. A number of States permit children whose sixth birthday occurs after the opening of the fall term (some as late as January) to enroll in primary grades. Other States require the sixth birthday be reached before the beginning of the fall term. This requirement is reflected by the enrollment of a relatively small number of 6-year-olds in prekindergarten and kindergarten programs (187,000). Table 8 summarizes the enrollment of children 3 to 6 years old. This table is supplemented by tables 9 and 10, showing, respectively, the characteristics of 6-year-olds in preprimary programs and of 5-year-olds in primary programs.

Control

In October 1972, 67.9 percent of the children in preprimary programs attended programs operated under public control (table 1). The remaining 32.1 percent of the enrollment was in nonpublic programs; i.e., those supported and operated by other than public funds.

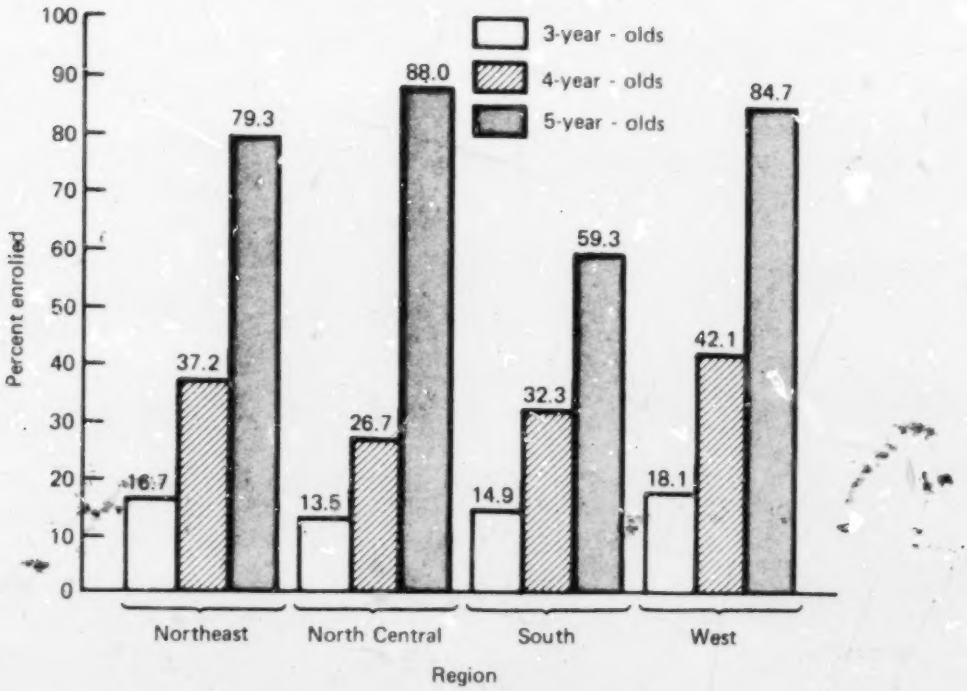
Publicly controlled programs are shown to be of particular importance at the kindergarten level. More than 80 percent of all children enrolled in kindergarten attended public schools. In contrast, nearly 70 percent of the children in prekindergarten were attending nonpublic programs. The majority of enrollment among Negro 3- to 5-year-olds was in public programs at both the prekindergarten and kindergarten levels. At the prekindergarten level, 61.1 percent of the enrollment among Negroes was in publicly controlled programs in contrast with 26.0 percent of the enrollment of white 3- to 5-year-olds. About 90 percent of the Negro children enrolled in kindergarten attended publicly operated programs, while 82.6 percent of the white enrollment was in public programs at this level.

Region

Among regions of the United States,[1/] the South had the lowest preprimary enrollment rate (35.4 percent) for children 3 to 5 years old. Figure 2 illustrates that this low rate is directly attributable to the 59.3-percent enrollment rate among 5-year-olds residing in that region. [Nationally 76.1 percent of the 5-year-olds were enrolled in preprimary programs (table 1).] The low rate of participation of 5-year-olds in preprimary programs in the South is related to the small number of public kindergarten programs available in that region. Enrollment rates of 3- and 4-year-olds in the South were comparable with those of children the same ages in the other three regions.

Average enrollment rates in the North Central and Northeast regions were 42.4 percent and 44.3 percent, respectively. The highest regional enrollment rate was reported for the West, where 48.2 percent of the children 3 to 5 years old were attending preprimary programs (table 2). The West also showed the greatest amount of growth in preprimary enrollment between 1971 and 1972, increasing from 42.2 percent in October 1971 to 48.2 in 1972. Little appreciable change can be noted in the overall enrollment rates in the other three regions between the two years.

1/ As grouped by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. See appendix for State list.



Residence

Place of residence as defined in this study is based on Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA's) as defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.2/ The term metropolitan area as used here is synonymous with Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area. Nonmetropolitan residence refers to the remainder of the population living in areas outside of SMSA's.

The difference between the enrollment rates of metropolitan central and other metropolitan areas was relatively small in 1972, appearing at 43.7 percent and 46.6 percent, respectively (table 3). However, enrollment in nonmetropolitan areas was decidedly lower than in the metropolitan areas, with 34.0 percent of the children 3 to 5 years old attending preprimary programs. The lower enrollment rate in nonmetropolitan areas is most likely attributable to the fewer pre-kindergarten and kindergarten programs available in such areas.

2/ See "Definitions and Explanations" section of the appendix.

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Family Income

Little appreciable difference is noted among the enrollment rates of the family income categories falling below $10,000 (table 4). Enrollment in these categories ranged from a low of 33.4 percent among families earning between $3,000 and $4,999 to a high of 36.3 percent for families earning $7,500 to $9,999 annually. The highest enrollment was found among 3- to 5-year-old children in families earning $10,000 or more a year (50.9 percent). Children in this income group represented about half of all children enrolled in preprimary programs.

For children 5 years old there was little difference in enrollment among the various categories falling below an annual family income of $7,500. Enrollment in these categories averaged 66.0 percent. In families with an annual income between $7,500 and $9,999, 75.5 percent of the children were enrolled in preprimary programs. At the $10,000 and above income level, 84.1 percent of the 5-year-olds were enrolled in preprimary programs.

Family income appears to be a more crucial factor in the enrollment of children 3 and 4 years old. Among 3-year-olds the percent of children enrolled was nearly twice as high for those in families with an income of $10,000 or more as for those in families earning less than $10,000. There was also a noticeable difference among 4-year-olds when a $10,000 family income is viewed as the dividing point, with a 43.2-percent enrollment rate for the $10,000 and above category, and an average rate of 26.7 percent among children of families with an anual income of less than $10,000. The greater number of tuitioned nonpublic prekindergarten programs in relation to free public prekindergarten programs evidently contributes to the higher enrollment rates for 3-year-olds and 4-year-olds in families earning $10,000 or more.

Occupation and Education of Household Head

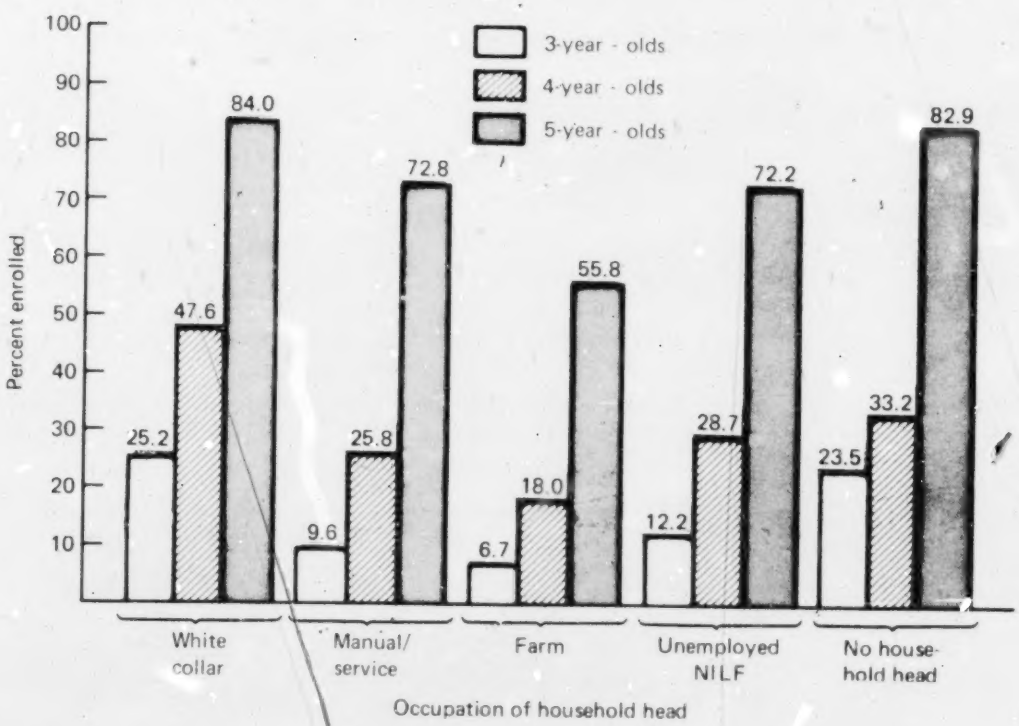
Table 5 shows that among white-collar families the preprimary enrollment rate of 3- to 5-year-olds exceeded 50 percent in October 1972 (51.9 percent). The only other group to approximate white-collar enrollment was that defined as having no household head (the household head is a member of the Armed Forces, not residing at home); enrollment here was 48.3 percent. Enrollment in preprimary programs was lowest among children in families where the household head was employed in a farming occupation (28.7 percent). The enrollment rate for children in families where the household head was unemployed or not in the labor force (NILF) was 38.4 percent; for families where the household head was engaged in a manual or service occupation the enrollment rate was 35.6 percent.

Figure 3 further defines the discrepancies among preprimary enrollment rates in the various occupational categories by age of child. In general, the patterns of enrollment previously outlined remain consistent for each age group.

Enrollment rates among Negro 3- to 5-year-olds were higher than among white children of the same ages in all but the farm category. The greatest difference between white and Negro enrollment occurred among children in families where the household head was unemployed or not in the labor force; enrollment among Negroes is shown at 44.2 percent, and among white children, at 35.6 percent in this category.

As might be expected, the chance that a child 3 to 5 years old would be enrolled in a preprimary program increased with each higher level of education achieved by the household head (table 5). Among 3-year-olds, enrollment ranged from 8.8 percent in families where the household head had completed 8 years or less of school, to 29.5 percent for children in families in which the household head had completed 4 or more years of college. The range of enrollment rates among 4-year-olds was from 22.6 percent to 58.0 percent; and for 5-year-olds from 60.5 percent to 88.3 percent.

Figure 3—Preprimary enrollment of children 3 to 5 years old as percent of population, by age and by occupation of household head: United States, October 1972

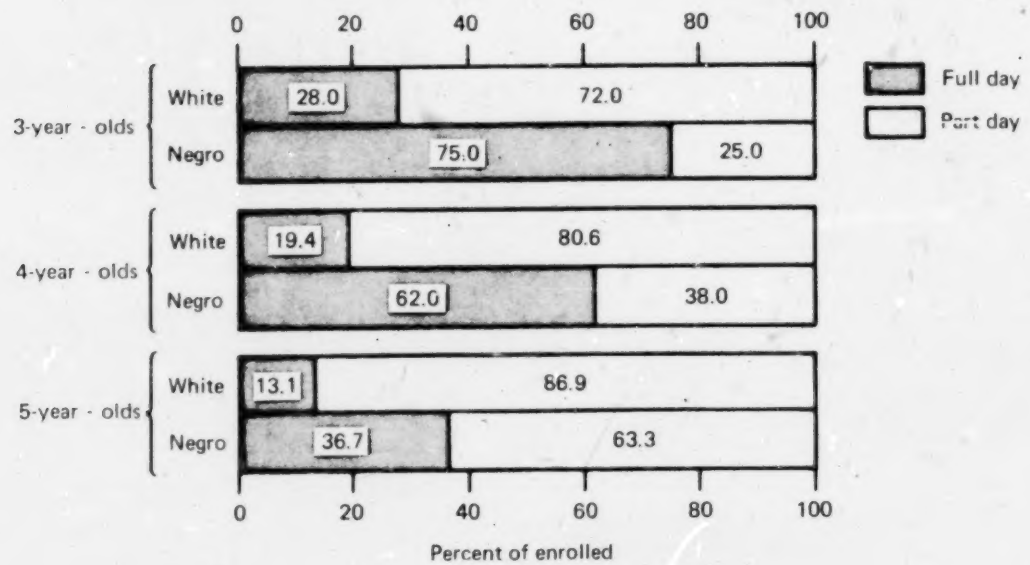


Full-Day and Part-Day Attendance

More than three-fourths of the children enrolled in preprimary programs attended school for only part of the day (table 7). A slight increase in the proportion of children attending full-day sessions occurred between 1971 (17.4 percent) and 1972 (21.8 percent). Full-day attendance was most prevalent at the prekindergarten level, where nearly one-third of the pupils attended programs extending through both the morning and afternoon. At the kindergarten level fewer than one-fifth of the pupils were in full-day sessions.

Age and race are also noticeable variables affecting full-day and part-day attendance. Among Negro 3- to 5-year-old children nearly half of the attendance (49.7 percent) was in full-day programs. Among enrolled white children of the same ages only 16.6 percent were attending school full-day. This disparity was most pronounced for children 3 and 4 years old, as shown in figure 4. Among 3-year-olds, 28.0 percent of the enrolled white children, compared with 75.0 percent of the enrolled Negro children, were in full-day programs. Among 4-year-olds, full-day attendance was slightly less than among 3-year-olds. However, the difference between white and Negro enrollment remained, with 19.4 percent of the white children enrolled attending full-day sessions, as contrasted with 62.0 percent of enrolled Negro children. Full-day attendance was a much smaller proportion of the total enrollment for both white (13.1 percent) and Negro (36.7 percent) 5-year-olds.

Figure 4—Distribution of preprimary enrollment of children 3 to 5 years old by full-day and part-day attendance, by age and race: United States, October 1972



SUMMARY

Since 1964, the enrollment rate of children 3 to 5 years old in preprimary programs increased from 25.5 percent to 41.6 percent. By 1972, increases in the proportions of children enrolled in the various socioeconomic categories reached such a point that the lowest enrollment rates in 1972 approximated 1964's highest enrollment rates (table 12).

A child most likely to be enrolled in a preprimary program in October 1972 was 5 years old and eligible for most public school kindergarten programs. He resided in a metropolitan area, outside of the central city, in the West. The family income was $10,000 or more a year, with the household head having completed 4 or more years of college and being engaged in a white-collar occupation.

A child 3 years old was least likely to be enrolled in a preprimary program. Other characteristics indicating a child's reduced chance of enrollment in such a program were residence in a nonmetropolitan area in the South and a household head engaged in a farming occupation. A family income of less than $5,000 and the completion of 8 or fewer years of elementary school by the household head also reduced a child's chances of being enrolled in a preprimary program.

STATISTICAL TABLES

Abbreviations:

INR - Income not reported

NILF - Not in labor force

Table 1.--Preprimary enrollment and population of children 3 to 5 years old, by level, control of program, age, and race: United States, October 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Age and race	Number in population	Enrolled in preprimary			Enrolled in prekindergarten			Enrolled in kindergarten		
		Total	Public	Nonpublic	Total	Public	Nonpublic	Total	Public	Nonpublic
Total 3 - 5 years	10,166	4,231	2,871	1,360	1,277	396	881	2,954	2,475	478
White	8,560	3,542	2,319	1,223	1,073	279	794	2,469	2,040	429
Other races	1,606	689	552	137	204	117	87	485	436	50
Negro	1,442	619	502	117	185	113	72	434	389	45
3 years	3,441	535	150	385	507	134	373	28	17	12
White	2,900	434	88	347	421	85	337	13	3	10
Other races	541	101	63	38	85	49	36	16	14	2
Negro	486	96	62	35	81	48	33	16	14	2
4 years	3,341	1,121	532	588	706	228	478	414	304	110
White	2,813	925	398	527	594	166	429	331	232	99
Other races	528	195	134	61	112	63	49	83	72	12
Negro	469	174	124	49	97	60	38	76	65	12
5 years	3,384	2,575	2,188	387	64	33	31	2,511	2,155	356
White	2,847	2,182	1,833	349	57	28	29	2,125	1,805	320
Other races	537	393	355	38	7	5	2	386	350	36
Negro	487	349	316	33	7	5	2	342	311	31
		Enrolled as percent of population								
Total 3 - 5 years		41.6	28.2	13.4	12.6	3.9	8.7	29.1	24.3	4.7
White		41.4	27.1	14.3	12.5	3.3	9.3	28.8	23.8	5.0
Other races		42.9	34.4	8.5	12.7	7.3	5.4	30.2	27.1	3.1
Negro		43.0	34.8	8.1	12.8	7.8	5.0	30.1	27.0	3.1
3 years		15.5	4.4	11.2	14.7	3.9	10.8	.8	.5	.3
White		15.0	3.0	12.0	14.5	2.9	11.6	.4	.1	.3
Other races		18.6	11.6	7.0	15.7	9.0	6.7	2.9	2.6	.3
Negro		19.8	12.7	7.1	16.6	9.8	6.8	3.2	2.9	.4
4 years		33.5	15.9	17.6	21.1	6.8	14.3	12.4	9.1	3.3
White		32.9	14.1	18.7	21.1	5.9	15.2	11.8	8.3	3.5
Other races		37.0	25.4	11.6	21.2	11.8	9.3	15.8	13.6	2.2
Negro		37.1	26.5	10.5	20.8	12.7	8.0	16.3	13.8	2.5
5 years		76.1	64.7	11.4	1.9	1.0	.9	74.2	63.7	10.5
White		76.7	64.4	12.3	2.0	1.0	1.0	74.7	63.4	11.2
Other races		73.2	66.1	7.1	1.3	1.0	.4	71.9	65.2	6.7
Negro		71.8	64.9	6.8	1.5	1.1	.4	70.3	63.9	6.4

Table 2.--Preprimary enrollment and population of children 3 to 5 years old, by region, age, and race: United States, October 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Age and race	Northeast		North Central		South		West	
	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled
Total 3 - 5 years	2,284	1,013	2,719	1,152	3,302	1,170	1,861	896
White	1,978	869	2,406	1,018	2,550	872	1,625	783
Other races	306	143	313	134	752	299	236	113
Negro	284	134	296	127	724	290	138	69
3 years	800	133	907	123	1,097	164	637	115
White	704	115	788	101	848	115	559	103
Other races	96	18	119	22	248	48	78	12
Negro	90	18	109	22	237	48	51	7
4 years	706	263	923	246	1,111	359	600	253
White	614	235	817	217	857	250	524	223
Other races	93	28	106	29	254	108	76	30
Negro	84	25	104	28	241	102	39	18
5 years	778	617	889	783	1,094	648	623	528
White	660	519	801	700	844	506	542	457
Other races	118	97	88	82	249	142	82	72
Negro	110	90	83	77	246	139	48	43
	Enrolled as percent of population							
Total 3 - 5 years		44.3		42.4		35.4		48.2
White		43.9		42.3		34.2		48.2
Other races		46.9		42.8		39.7		48.1
Negro		47.1		42.9		40.1		49.7
3 years		16.7		13.5		14.9		18.1
White		16.3		12.8		13.6		18.5
Other races		19.2		18.6		19.5		15.3
Negro		20.5		20.3		20.4		14.6
4 years		37.2		26.7		32.3		42.1
White		38.3		26.5		29.2		42.5
Other races		30.2		27.7		42.5		39.5
Negro		29.9		26.6		42.5		47.3
5 years		79.3		88.0		59.3		84.7
White		78.7		87.5		59.9		84.3
Other races		82.5		93.4		57.0		87.5
Negro		82.0		92.9		56.7		89.0

Table 3.--Preprimary enrollment and population of children 3 to 5 years old, by area of residence, age, and race: United States, October 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Age and race	Metropolitan, central			Metropolitan, other			Nonmetropolitan		
	Population	Enrolled		Population	Enrolled		Population	Enrolled	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
Total 3 - 5 years	3,029	1,324	43.7	3,830	1,784	46.6	3,307	1,123	34.0
White	2,103	906	43.1	3,539	1,637	46.3	2,917	999	34.2
Other races	926	418	45.1	291	147	50.5	390	124	31.9
Negro	873	396	45.4	219	111	50.6	349	112	32.1
3 years	1,036	178	17.2	1,285	240	18.7	1,120	116	10.4
White	719	116	16.2	1,198	225	18.8	983	93	9.4
Other races	317	62	19.5	87	15	17.7	138	23	17.0
Negro	297	59	20.0	69	15	22.3	121	22	17.9
4 years	988	350	35.4	1,282	502	39.2	1,071	268	25.0
White	680	234	34.4	1,181	457	38.7	952	234	24.6
Other races	309	117	37.8	101	45	44.9	119	33	28.1
Negro	289	109	37.7	74	34	46.9	106	30	28.7
5 years	1,005	795	79.1	1,264	1,042	82.4	1,116	739	66.2
White	704	555	78.9	1,161	955	82.3	982	671	68.3
Other races	301	240	79.6	103	86	83.6	133	68	50.8
Negro	287	228	79.5	77	61	79.6	123	60	48.9

Table 4.--Preprimary enrollment and population of children 3 to 5 years old, by level of family income, age, and race: United States, October 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Age and race	Under $3,000		$3,000-$4,999		$5,000-$7,499		$7,500-$9,999		$10,000 and over		Income not reported	
	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled
Total 3 - 5 years	841	285	1,229	410	1,691	580	1,797	653	4,030	2,051	578	211
White	472	148	877	274	1,407	447	1,580	578	3,707	1,877	516	211
Other races	369	137	352	136	284	134	217	76	323	174	62	33
Negro	352	134	330	124	272	134	186	63	246	133	56	31
3 years	306	47	431	49	601	64	638	68	1,271	274	194	34
White	161	18	317	28	513	43	567	64	1,156	248	185	34
Other races	144	29	114	20	88	22	70	4	116	25	8	0
Negro	137	29	109	20	82	22	61	4	93	21	5	0
4 years	254	63	433	122	525	132	610	170	1,327	573	192	60
White	147	27	303	77	425	98	537	149	1,232	523	169	52
Other races	107	36	129	45	100	35	74	21	95	50	24	8
Negro	101	36	122	41	94	35	63	19	68	37	21	6
5 years	281	176	365	239	565	384	549	415	1,432	1,204	191	158
White	164	104	257	168	469	307	476	365	1,319	1,106	162	133
Other races	117	72	108	71	96	77	73	50	113	99	30	25
Negro	115	69	98	63	96	77	62	40	86	75	30	25

	Enrolled as percent of population					
Total 3 - 5 years	33.9	33.4	34.3	36.3	50.9	43.5
White	31.4	31.2	31.8	36.6	50.6	42.3
Other races	37.1	38.8	47.0	34.8	53.8	53.3
Negro	38.1	37.7	49.0	33.9	54.1	56.1
3 years	15.3	11.2	10.7	10.6	21.5	17.5
White	10.9	8.9	8.3	11.2	21.5	18.3
Other races	20.1	17.8	24.8	5.8	22.0	.0
Negro	21.3	18.6	26.6	6.7	22.7	.0
4 years	24.7	28.3	25.2	27.9	43.2	30.9
White	18.2	25.4	23.0	27.8	42.5	30.7
Other races	33.7	35.1	35.0	29.1	52.5	42.4
Negro	35.8	33.5	37.1	29.5	55.1	38.9
5 years	62.5	65.6	67.9	75.5	84.1	83.3
White	63.4	65.6	65.4	76.6	83.8	83.9
Other races	61.2	65.5	79.7	68.4	87.6	84.7
Negro	60.3	64.1	79.7	65.2	87.1	84.7

Table 5.--Preprimary enrollment and population of children 3 to 5 years old, by occupation of head of household, age, and race: United States, October 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Age and race	White collar		Manual/service		Farm		Unemployed-NILF		No household head	
	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled
Total 3 - 5 years	3,414	1,772	4,764	1,697	343	98	1,320	507	324	157
White	3,186	1,654	3,979	1,376	307	89	805	286	282	136
Other races	229	118	784	321	36	9	516	221	42	21
Negro	177	94	708	282	30	8	492	217	35	19
3 years	1,159	292	1,614	155	106	7	451	55	111	26
White	1,074	272	1,358	115	96	4	270	18	103	25
Other races	86	20	256	40	11	3	181	37	7	1
Negro	66	16	231	39	9	3	173	37	7	1
4 years	1,139	542	1,597	412	108	20	404	116	94	31
White	1,056	498	1,330	320	97	15	252	64	78	28
Other races	82	43	267	93	12	5	152	52	16	3
Negro	60	32	248	85	8	3	142	52	11	1
5 years	1,117	938	1,553	1,130	129	72	465	336	120	100
White	1,056	883	1,292	942	115	70	282	204	102	83
Other races	61	54	261	189	14	2	183	132	19	17
Negro	50	45	229	158	14	2	177	128	17	17
	Enrolled as percent of population									
Total 3 - 5 years	51.9		35.6		28.7		38.4		48.3	
White	51.9		34.6		29.0		35.6		48.1	
Other races	51.5		40.9		25.8		42.8		50.0	
Negro	53.0		39.8		25.9		44.2		54.2	
3 years	25.2		9.6		6.7		12.2		23.5	
White	25.4		8.5		4.5		6.7		23.8	
Other races	23.1		15.5		26.2		20.5		19.7	
Negro	24.9		16.7		32.7		21.4		19.7	
4 years	47.6		25.8		18.0		28.7		33.2	
White	47.2		24.0		15.5		25.3		36.5	
Other races	52.8		34.7		38.9		34.3		17.0	
Negro	54.0		34.4		38.7		36.7		9.1	
5 years	84.0		72.8		55.8		72.2		82.9	
White	83.7		72.9		60.7		72.4		81.6	
Other races	89.5		72.2		14.1		71.8		90.4	
Negro	88.8		68.9		14.1		72.4		100.0	

Table 6.--Preprimary enrollment and population of children 3 to 5 years old, by years of school completed by head of household, age, and race: United States, October 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Age and race	Population 3 - 5 years old and preprimary enrollment, by years completed by household head											
	Elementary 0-8 years		High school 1-3 years		High school 4 years		College 1-3 years		College 4 years or more		No head of household	
	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled	Population	Enrolled
Total 3 - 5 years	1,377	441	1,839	629	3,687	1,435	1,288	611	1,651	959	324	157
White	998	302	1,386	429	3,188	1,228	1,177	556	1,528	891	282	136
Other races	378	139	453	200	499	207	111	55	124	68	42	21
Negro	351	137	426	187	447	183	95	46	87	47	35	19
3 years	393	35	655	67	1,265	150	459	93	559	165	111	26
White	275	17	491	35	1,085	110	423	91	523	157	103	25
Other races	118	18	164	32	180	39	35	2	36	8	7	1
Negro	105	18	155	32	161	36	31	2	28	7	7	1
4 years	499	113	580	140	1,195	343	410	167	563	326	94	31
White	367	70	443	85	1,031	291	375	149	518	302	78	28
Other races	132	43	137	55	164	52	35	18	45	25	16	3
Negro	122	43	129	51	146	46	32	17	29	16	11	1
5 years	485	294	603	421	1,227	942	419	352	529	467	120	100
White	356	216	451	309	1,072	826	379	316	487	432	102	83
Other races	129	78	152	113	155	116	41	35	42	35	19	17
Negro	124	76	142	104	140	101	33	27	31	24	17	17
	Enrolled as percent of population											
Total 3 - 5 years	32.0		34.2		38.9		47.4		58.1		48.3	
White	30.3		31.0		38.5		47.2		58.3		48.1	
Other races	36.7		44.1		41.4		49.7		55.1		50.0	
Negro	39.2		43.9		40.9		48.1		53.8		54.2	
3 years	8.8		10.3		11.8		20.2		29.5		23.5	
White	6.0		7.1		10.2		21.5		30.0		23.8	
Other races	15.4		19.6		21.7		4.7		22.5		19.7	
Negro	17.3		20.8		22.4		5.4		24.2		19.7	
4 years	22.6		24.1		28.7		40.7		58.0		33.2	
White	19.0		19.2		28.2		39.7		58.2		36.5	
Other races	32.6		40.2		31.7		51.3		55.4		17.0	
Negro	35.1		39.3		31.6		52.7		57.4		9.1	
5 years	60.5		69.9		76.8		83.9		88.3		82.9	
White	60.6		68.4		77.1		83.5		88.7		81.6	
Other races	60.3		74.2		74.5		87.2		83.0		90.4	
Negro	61.8		73.2		71.8		84.0		76.8		100.0	

Table 7.--Preprimary enrollment of children 3 to 5 years old in full-day and part-day attendance, by level, age, and race: United States, October 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Age and race	Preprimary enrollment		Enrolled in prekindergarten		Enrolled in kindergarten	
	Full day	Part day	Full day	Part day	Full day	Part day
Total 3 - 5 years	922	3,309	404	873	518	2,436
White	587	2,955	262	811	325	2,144
Other races	335	354	141	63	193	292
Negro	308	311	137	48	171	264
3 years	195	340	177	330	18	10
White	122	313	117	304	4	9
Other races	73	27	59	26	14	2
Negro	72	24	58	22	14	2
4 years	296	825	206	501	90	324
White	179	746	128	467	52	279
Other races	116	79	78	34	38	45
Negro	108	66	75	22	33	44
5 years	432	2,144	21	43	410	2,101
White	286	1,896	17	40	269	1,856
Other races	145	248	4	3	141	245
Negro	128	221	4	3	124	218
	As percent of number enrolled in each area					
Total 3 - 5 years	21.8	78.2	31.6	68.4	17.5	82.5
White	16.6	83.4	24.5	75.5	13.2	86.8
Other races	48.6	51.4	69.3	30.7	39.9	60.1
Negro	49.7	50.3	74.3	25.7	39.3	60.7
3 years	36.4	63.6	34.9	65.1	63.5	36.5
White	28.0	72.0	27.9	72.1	33.0	67.0
Other races	72.8	27.2	69.9	30.1	88.6	11.4
Negro	75.0	25.0	72.4	27.6	88.6	11.4
4 years	26.4	73.6	29.1	70.9	21.7	78.3
White	19.4	80.6	21.5	78.5	15.6	84.4
Other races	59.5	40.5	69.7	30.3	45.8	54.2
Negro	62.0	38.0	77.2	22.8	42.8	57.2
5 years	16.8	83.2	33.0	67.0	16.3	83.7
White	13.1	86.9	30.1	69.9	12.7	87.3
Other races	37.0	63.0	56.3	43.7	36.6	63.4
Negro	36.7	63.3	56.3	43.7	36.3	63.7

Table 8.--Enrollment and population of children 3 to 6 years old, by level, age, and race: United States, October 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Age and race	Number in population	Total enrolled		Enrolled in prekindergarten		Enrolled in kindergarten		Enrolled in primary school	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total 3 - 6 years	13,678	7,995	58.4	1,283	9.4	3,134	22.9	3,578	26.2
White	11,507	6,700	58.2	1,078	9.4	2,634	22.9	2,988	26.0
Other races	2,171	1,294	59.6	204	9.4	501	23.1	589	27.1
Negro	1,942	1,157	59.6	185	9.5	448	23.1	524	27.0
3 years	3,441	535	15.5	507	14.7	28	.8	0	.0
White	2,900	434	15.0	421	14.5	13	.4	0	.0
Other races	541	101	18.6	85	15.7	16	2.9	0	.0
Negro	486	96	19.8	81	16.6	16	3.2	0	.0
4 years	3,341	1,121	33.5	706	21.1	414	12.4	0	.0
White	2,813	925	32.9	594	21.1	331	11.8	0	.0
Other races	528	195	37.0	112	21.2	83	15.8	0	.0
Negro	469	174	37.1	97	20.8	76	16.3	0	.0
5 years	3,384	2,890	85.4	64	1.9	2,511	74.2	315	9.3
White	2,847	2,450	86.0	57	2.0	2,125	74.7	268	9.4
Other races	537	440	81.9	7	1.3	386	71.9	47	8.8
Negro	487	394	80.9	7	1.5	342	70.3	45	9.3
6 years	3,512	3,450	98.2	6	.2	181	5.2	3,263	92.9
White	2,947	2,891	98.0	6	.2	165	5.5	2,720	92.3
Other races	565	558	98.8	0	.0	16	2.9	542	95.9
Negro	500	493	98.6	0	.0	14	2.8	479	95.8

Table 9.--Preprimary enrollment and population of children 6 years old, by selected characteristics: United States, October 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristics	Number in population	Preprimary enrollment			Enrolled in prekindergarten			Enrolled in kindergarten		
		Total	Public	Non-public	Total	Public	Non-public	Total	Public	Non-public
Total 6 years old	3,512	187	166	21	6	6	0	181	160	21
White	2,947	171	152	19	6	6	0	165	146	19
Other races	565	16	15	1	0	0	0	16	15	1
Negro	500	14	12	1	0	0	0	14	12	1
Family income										
Under $3,000	242	6	5	1	0	0	0	6	5	1
$3,000-$4,999	403	28	27	1	0	0	0	28	27	1
$5,000-$7,499	545	22	19	3	3	3	0	19	16	3
$7,500-$9,999	604	42	38	4	0	0	0	42	38	4
$10,000 and over	1,506	79	69	9	3	3	0	76	66	9
Income not reported	216	10	8	1	0	0	0	10	8	1
Occupation of household head										
White collar	1,223	64	60	4	2	2	0	63	59	4
Manual/service	1,666	88	71	17	5	5	0	83	67	17
Farm	107	4	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
Unemployed-NILF	420	29	29	0	0	0	0	29	29	0
No household head	97	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Residence										
Metropolitan, central	1,031	60	57	3	3	3	0	57	54	3
Metropolitan, other	1,356	66	58	8	1	1	0	64	56	8
Nonmetropolitan	1,126	61	52	10	1	1	0	60	50	10
Region										
Northeast	773	38	37	1	3	3	0	35	34	1
North Central	1,031	81	79	1	3	3	0	78	76	1
South	1,137	34	19	15	0	0	0	34	19	15
West	571	34	31	3	0	0	0	34	31	3
		Enrolled as percent of population								
Total 6 years old		5.3	4.7	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.0	5.2	4.6	0.6
White		5.8	5.1	.9	.2	.2	.0	5.6	4.9	.6
Other races		2.8	2.6	.3	.0	.0	.0	2.8	2.6	.3
Negro		2.8	2.5	.3	.0	.0	.0	2.8	2.5	.3
Family income										
Under $3,000		2.5	1.9	.5	.0	.0	.0	2.5	1.9	.5
$3,000-$4,999		6.9	6.6	.4	.0	.0	.0	6.9	6.6	.4
$5,000-$7,499		4.0	3.5	.5	.6	.5	.0	3.5	3.0	.5
$7,500-$9,999		7.0	6.3	.7	.0	.0	.0	7.0	6.3	.7
$10,000 and over		5.2	4.6	.6	.2	.2	.0	5.0	4.4	.6
Income not reported		4.8	3.9	.7	.0	.0	.0	4.6	3.9	.7
Occupation of household head										
White collar		5.2	4.9	.3	.2	.1	.0	5.2	4.8	.3
Manual/service		5.3	4.3	1.0	.3	.3	.0	5.0	4.0	1.0
Farm		3.7	3.9	.0	.0	.0	.0	3.7	3.9	.0
Unemployed-NILF		6.9	7.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	6.9	7.0	.0
No household head		1.0	1.5	.0	.0	.0	.0	1.0	1.5	.0
Residence										
Metropolitan, central		5.8	5.5	.3	.3	.3	.0	5.5	5.2	.3
Metropolitan, other		4.9	4.3	.6	.1	.1	.0	4.7	4.1	.6
Nonmetropolitan		5.4	4.6	.9	.1	.1	.0	5.3	4.5	.9
Region										
Northeast		4.9	4.8	.2	.4	.4	.0	4.5	4.4	.2
North Central		7.9	7.7	.1	.3	.3	.0	7.6	7.4	.1
South		3.0	1.7	1.3	.0	.0	.0	3.0	1.7	1.3
West		6.0	5.4	.5	.0	.0	.0	6.0	5.4	.5

Table 10.--Five-year-old children enrolled in primary programs, by selected characteristics: United States, October 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristics	Number in population	Primary enrollment					
		Total		Public		Nonpublic	
		Enrolled	Percent	Enrolled	Percent	Enrolled	Percent
Total 5 years old	3,384	315	9.3	269	8.0	46	1.3
White	2,847	268	9.4	224	7.9	43	1.5
Other races	537	47	8.8	45	8.4	2	.4
Negro	487	45	9.3	43	8.8	2	.5
Family income							
Under $3,000	281	23	8.2	22	7.7	2	.6
$3,000-$4,999	365	37	10.2	36	9.8	1	.4
$5,000-$7,499	565	58	10.3	49	8.7	9	1.6
$7,500-$9,999	549	54	9.9	50	9.0	5	.9
$10,000 and over	1,432	129	9.0	106	7.4	23	1.6
Income not reported	191	13	6.8	7	3.8	6	3.0
Occupation of household head							
White collar	1,117	96	8.6	71	6.4	25	2.2
Manual/service	1,553	160	10.3	144	9.2	16	1.1
Farm	129	9	7.2	9	7.2	0	.0
Unemployed-NILF	465	38	8.2	36	7.6	3	.6
No household head	120	12	9.6	10	8.1	2	1.5
Residence							
Metropolitan, central	1,005	103	10.3	80	8.0	23	2.3
Metropolitan, other	1,264	120	9.5	104	8.2	16	1.3
Nonmetropolitan	1,116	92	8.2	85	7.6	7	.6
Region							
Northeast	778	111	14.3	93	12.0	18	2.3
North Central	889	46	5.1	38	4.3	8	.9
South	1,094	109	9.9	93	8.5	15	1.4
West	623	49	7.9	45	7.2	4	.7

Table 11.--Preprimary enrollment and population of children 3 to 5 years old and percent distribution, by selected characteristics: United States, October 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristics	Number in population	Enrolled in prekindergarten			Enrolled in kindergarten		
		Total	Public	Nonpublic	Total	Public	Nonpublic
Total	10,166	1,277	396	881	2,954	2,475	478
Family income							
Under $3,000	841	85	59	26	200	185	15
$3,000-$4,999	1,229	118	73	45	292	268	24
$5,000-$7,499	1,691	134	64	70	446	396	51
$7,500-$9,999	1,797	163	39	124	490	406	84
$10,000 and over	4,030	707	139	568	1,344	1,067	277
Income not reported	578	70	22	49	181	153	28
Occupation of household head							
White collar	3,414	690	124	565	1,082	807	275
Manual/service	4,764	393	155	238	1,304	1,152	152
Farm	343	15	10	5	83	76	7
Unemployed-NILF	1,320	131	91	40	376	354	22
No household head	324	48	15	33	109	87	22
Residence							
Metropolitan, central	3,029	388	173	215	936	779	157
Metropolitan, other	3,830	612	137	475	1,172	995	177
Nonmetropolitan	3,307	277	86	191	846	702	144
Region							
Northeast	2,284	311	80	232	701	643	58
North Central	2,719	320	107	213	832	779	53
South	3,302	338	101	237	833	535	297
West	1,861	308	109	200	588	518	70
		Percent distribution					
Family income	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $3,000	8.3	6.7	14.9	3.0	6.8	7.5	3.1
$3,000-$4,999	12.1	9.2	18.5	5.1	9.9	10.8	5.0
$5,000-$7,499	16.6	10.5	16.2	7.9	15.1	16.0	10.6
$7,500-$9,999	17.7	12.7	9.8	14.1	16.6	16.4	17.6
$10,000 and over	39.6	55.4	35.2	64.4	45.5	43.1	57.8
Income not reported	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.5	6.1	6.2	5.9
Occupation of household head	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White collar	33.6	54.0	31.4	64.1	36.6	32.6	57.5
Manual/service	46.9	30.8	39.3	27.0	44.1	46.5	31.8
Farm	3.4	1.2	2.5	.6	2.8	3.1	1.5
Unemployed-NILF	13.0	10.3	22.9	4.6	12.7	14.3	4.6
No household head	3.2	3.8	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.5	4.6
Residence	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Metropolitan, central	29.8	30.4	43.6	24.4	31.7	31.5	32.9
Metropolitan, other	37.7	47.9	34.6	53.9	39.7	40.2	37.0
Nonmetropolitan	32.5	21.7	21.8	21.7	28.6	28.3	30.1
Region	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Northeast	22.5	24.4	20.1	26.3	23.7	26.0	12.1
North Central	26.7	25.0	26.9	24.2	28.2	31.5	11.1
South	32.5	26.4	25.4	26.9	28.2	21.6	62.2
West	18.3	24.2	27.5	22.6	19.9	20.9	14.6

Table 12.--Historical summary of preprimary enrollment and population of children 3 to 5 years old, by family income, occupation of head of household, place of residence, and race: United States, 1964-1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	1964			1966			1968			1970			1972		
	Population	Enrolled		Population	Enrolled		Population	Enrolled		Population	Enrolled		Population	Enrolled	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent		Number	Percent		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
Total 3 - 5 years old	12,496	3,187	25.5	12,486	3,674	29.4	11,905	3,928	33.0	10,949	4,104	37.5	10,166	4,231	41.6
White	10,608	2,747	25.9	10,514	3,142	29.9	9,968	3,310	33.2	9,098	3,443	37.8	8,560	3,542	41.4
Other races	1,888	440	23.3	1,970	532	27.0	1,937	618	31.9	1,851	661	35.7	1,606	689	42.9
Family income															
Less than $3,000	2,031	307	15.1	1,575	304	19.3	1,150	269	23.4	916	224	24.4	841	285	33.9
White	1,178	159	13.5	849	165	19.4	577	123	21.3	467	112	24.0	472	148	31.4
Other races	853	148	17.4	726	139	19.1	573	146	25.5	450	112	24.9	369	137	37.1
$3,000 to $4,999	2,525	499	19.8	2,281	485	21.3	1,858	480	25.8	1,312	392	29.9	1,229	410	33.4
White	1,954	348	17.8	1,727	357	20.7	1,321	304	23.0	869	226	26.0	877	274	31.2
Other races	571	151	26.4	554	128	23.1	537	176	32.8	443	116	37.5	352	136	38.8
$5,000 to $7,499	4,063	1,050	25.8	3,543	1,026	29.0	2,938	835	28.4	2,277	737	32.4	1,691	580	34.3
White	3,808	977	25.7	3,189	907	28.4	2,567	717	27.9	1,911	590	30.8	1,407	447	31.8
Other races	255	73	28.6	354	119	33.6	371	118	31.8	366	148	40.3	284	134	47.0
$7,500 and over	3,422	1,274	37.2	4,382	1,657	37.8	5,266	2,121	40.3	5,641	2,433	43.1	5,827	2,704	46.4
White	3,284	1,221	37.2	4,164	1,550	37.2	4,917	1,975	40.2	5,184	2,235	40.3	5,287	2,455	46.4
Other races	138	53	38.4	218	107	49.1	349	146	41.8	457	197	43.0	540	250	46.3
Occupation of household head															
White collar	4,110	1,321	32.1	4,292	1,568	36.5	4,123	1,700	41.2	3,807	1,791	47.0	3,414	1,772	51.9
White	3,934	1,244	31.6	4,053	1,470	36.3	3,867	1,577	40.8	3,550	1,652	46.5	3,186	1,654	51.9
Other races	176	77	43.8	239	98	41.0	256	123	48.0	257	139	53.9	229	118	51.5
Manual/service	6,146	1,420	23.1	6,224	1,660	26.7	5,866	1,682	28.7	5,231	1,678	32.1	4,764	1,697	35.6
White	5,059	1,157	22.9	5,052	1,340	26.5	4,788	1,347	28.1	4,235	1,359	32.1	3,979	1,376	34.6
Other races	1,087	263	24.2	1,172	320	27.3	1,078	335	31.1	996	319	32.0	784	321	40.9
Farm	686	86	12.5	538	74	13.8	467	101	21.6	346	82	23.6	343	98	28.7
White	526	79	15.0	426	62	14.6	380	92	24.2	294	70	23.9	307	89	29.0
Other races	160	7	4.4	112	12	10.7	87	9	10.3	51	11	22.1	36	9	25.8
Unemployed-NILF	1,116	240	21.5	1,057	233	22.0	1,153	345	29.9	1,213	415	34.2	1,320	507	38.4
White	696	153	22.0	644	150	23.3	690	208	30.1	719	245	34.1	805	286	35.6
Other races	420	87	20.7	413	83	20.1	463	137	29.6	494	169	34.3	516	221	42.8
Residence															
Metro., central	3,618	1,053	29.1	3,520	1,226	34.8	3,392	1,246	36.7	3,088	1,218	39.4	3,029	1,324	43.7
White	2,572	729	28.3	2,470	846	34.3	2,356	842	35.7	2,101	821	39.1	2,103	906	43.1
Other races	1,046	324	31.0	1,050	380	36.2	1,036	404	39.0	987	397	40.2	926	418	45.1
Metro., other	4,476	1,329	29.7	4,364	1,455	33.3	4,242	1,562	36.8	3,949	1,705	43.2	3,830	1,784	46.6
White	4,224	1,264	29.9	4,120	1,385	33.6	3,954	1,462	37.0	3,643	1,587	43.6	3,539	1,637	46.3
Other races	252	65	25.8	244	70	28.7	288	100	34.7	306	118	38.6	291	147	50.5
Nonmetropolitan	4,403	806	18.3	4,602	995	21.6	4,266	1,120	26.3	3,913	1,181	30.2	3,307	1,123	34.0
White	3,813	756	19.8	3,926	915	23.3	3,655	1,006	27.5	3,354	1,035	30.9	2,917	999	34.2
Other races	590	50	8.5	676	80	11.8	611	114	18.7	558	146	26.1	390	124	31.9

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APPENDIX

Definitions and Explanations

List of States, by Region

Sampling Reliability

Reproduction of Questions on School Enrollment from October 1972 Current Population Survey Form

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Population Coverage. The data presented in this report relate to the noninstitutional population in the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Most tables cover the 3- to 5-year-old population; some tables also include 6-year-olds.

*Age. The age classification is based on the age of the person on his last birthday.

Race. The term "race" refers to the division of the population into two groups: "white" and "other" (which includes Negroes, Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and others). In this report, Negroes have also been shown independently.

Primary. The primary level is a distinct organization within an elementary school for pupils in the primary grades, usually equivalent to grades 1 through 3.

Preprimary. The preprimary level is intended only for beginning groups of children during the year or years preceding the primary level. In this report, preprimary level is defined as including prekindergarten and kindergarten programs.

Preprimary programs. A preprimary program is defined as a set of organized educational experiences intended for children attending prekindergarten and kindergarten classes. Such programs may be offered by a public or nonpublic school or by some other agency. Children enrolled in "Head Start" programs are counted under prekindergarten or kindergarten as appropriate. Institutions which offer essentially custodial care, such as many "day care centers," are not included.

*Public or nonpublic school. In this report, a public school is defined as any educational institution operated by publicly elected or appointed school officials and supported by public funds. Nonpublic schools include educational institutions established and operated by religious groups, as well as those which are under other private control.

Part-day and full-day attendance. Part-day attendance refers to those children who attend either in the morning or in the afternoon, but not both. Full-day attendance refers to those who attend in both the morning and afternoon.

*Family. The term "family," as used here, refers to a group of two or more persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption and residing together: all such persons are considered as members of one family.

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*Excerpted from definitions used by the Bureau of the Census in its Current Population Report series.

*Family income. Income, as defined in this report, represents the combined total money income of the family before deductions for personal taxes, Social Security, bonds, etc. It is the algebraic sum of money wages and salaries, net income from self-employment, and income other than earnings received by all family members during the 12 months prior to the survey.

*Head of household. The household head is the person designated as such by the respondent for the household, regardless of whether he is related to other household members by blood, marriage, or adoption. "No household head" refers to families in which the household head is a member of the Armed Forces, not residing at home.

*Metropolitan-nonmetropolitan residence (Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas). The population residing in Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA's) constitutes the metropolitan population. Except in New England, an SMSA is a county or group of contiguous counties which contains at least one city of at least 50,000. In addition to the county or counties containing such a city or cities, contiguous counties are included in an SMSA if, according to certain criteria, they are essentially metropolitan in character and are socially and economically integrated with the central city. In New England, SMSA's consist of towns and cities, rather than counties. The metropolitan population in this report is based on SMSA's as defined in the 1970 census, and does not include any subsequent additions or changes.

LIST OF STATES, BY REGION*

NORTHEAST	NORTH CENTRAL	SOUTH	WEST
Connecticut	Illinois	Alabama	Arizona
Maine	Indiana	Arkansas	California
Massachusetts	Iowa	Delaware	Colorado
New Hampshire	Kansas	District of Columbia	Idaho
New Jersey	Michigan	Florida	Montana
New York	Minnesota	Georgia	Nevada
Pennsylvania	Missouri	Kentucky	New Mexico
Rhode Island	Nebraska	Louisiana	Oregon
Vermont	North Dakota	Maryland	Utah
	Ohio	Mississippi	Washington
	South Dakota	North Carolina	Wyoming
	Wisconsin	Oklahoma	Alaska
		South Carolina	Hawaii
		Tennessee	
		Texas	
		Virginia	
		West Virginia	

*As grouped by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

SAMPLING RELIABILITY

Because the figures in this report are estimates derived from a sample, they are subject to sampling variability. As a guide to users of the data, approximate standard errors for estimates from the survey are presented in tables A and B.

The standard error is a measure of sampling variability such that the chances are about 2 out of 3 that the difference between an estimate and the figure that would have been obtained from a complete census of the population would be less than the limit of error specified in the tables. The chances are about 19 in 20 that the difference would be less than twice the standard error shown. The standard error does not reflect response biases or systematic errors in the data such as would be applicable even if there were complete coverage of the population.

For estimates of numbers, the measures of sampling variability shown in table A may be used as a guide in analyzing the data in this report. For percentages derived for various population groups, the measures of sampling variability shown in table B may be used as a guide. Percentages derived from a larger base than shown will be subject to smaller relative errors.

Table A.--Standard errors of estimated numbers (68 chances out of 100)

Size of estimate	Standard error	Size of estimate	Standard error
25,000	7,000	1,000,000	40,000
50,000	9,000	1,500,000	49,000
100,000	13,000	2,500,000	70,000
250,000	21,000	5,000,000	77,000
500,000	29,000	7,500,000	83,000
750,000	35,000		

Table B.--Standard errors of estimated percentages (68 chances out of 100)
(Base of percentage: thousands)

Estimated percentage	250	500	750	1,000	1,500	2,500	5,000	7,500
2 or 98	1.2	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2
5 or 95	1.8	1.3	1.0	.9	.7	.6	.4	.3
10 or 90	2.5	1.8	1.4	1.3	1.0	.8	.6	.5
20 or 80	3.3	2.4	1.9	1.7	1.4	1.1	.7	.6
35 or 65	4.0	2.8	2.3	2.0	1.6	1.3	.9	.7
50	4.2	2.9	2.4	2.1	1.7	1.3	.9	.7

As an example of the use of these tables, consider the estimated number of 3-year-old children who are enrolled in nonpublic preprimary programs. This estimate is given in table 2 as 385,000. An approximate standard error for this estimate can be obtained from table A as follows: The estimated number 385,000 falls approximately 54 percent of the distance between 250,000 and 500,000 in table A. Fifty-four percent of the difference between 21,000 and 29,000 is 4,320. This latter figure added to 21,000 yields a standard error of approximately 25,000. As shown in table 2, an estimated 11.2 percent of the 3-year-old children are enrolled in nonpublic preprimary programs. The base for this percentage is 3,441,000. An approximate standard error for the estimated percentage (between .8 and .6) can be obtained from table B by a two-way interpolation process similar to that illustrated for table A.

Noninterview and Nonresponse

For various reasons, interviewers were unable to contact about 5 percent of the sample households in the monthly Current Population Survey. Adjustments for nonresponse to items on school enrollment were very slight. Adjustments for item nonresponse were made by allocating enrollment status on the basis of the last person of the same age, sex, and race encountered in the process of tabulation. The bias reflected in the data in this report as a result of these adjustments is thought to be minimal.

REPRODUCTION OF QUESTIONS ON SCHOOL ENROLLMENT FROM OCTOBER 1972
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY FORM
Bureau of the Census
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

FIRST CHILD 0-13 YEARS OLD

25. Line number	27. Age last birthday	29. Race	30. Sex	35. Is ... attending or enrolled in school?	36. Is it a public or a private school?	37. What grade is ... attending? (If nursery or kindergarten, ask if full-day or part-day)
Tens: 0 1	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	White ■ Other	Male Female	Yes (Ask 36) No (End questions)	Public ■ Private (Include parochial) (Ask 37)	Nursery: Full-day / Part-day. Kindergarten: Full-day / Part-day. Elementary or secondary (Grade): E1 E2 E3 E4 E5 E6 E7 E8 H1 H2 H3 H4. ■ Special School (Specify type)
Units: 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9						

SECOND CHILD 0-13 YEARS OLD

25. Line number	27. Age last birthday	29. Race	30. Sex	35. Is ... attending or enrolled in school?	36. Is it a public or a private school?	37. What grade is ... attending? (If nursery or kindergarten, ask if full-day or part-day)
Tens: 0 1	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	White ■ Other	Male Female	Yes (Ask 36) No (End questions)	Public ■ Private (Include parochial) (Ask 37)	Nursery: Full-day / Part-day. Kindergarten: Full-day / Part-day. Elementary or secondary (Grade): E1 E2 E3 E4 E5 E6 E7 E8 H1 H2 H3 H4. ■ Special School (Specify type)
Units: 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9						

THIRD CHILD 0-13 YEARS OLD

25. Line number	27. Age last birthday	29. Race	30. Sex	35. Is ... attending or enrolled in school?	36. Is it a public or a private school?	37. What grade is ... attending? (If nursery or kindergarten, ask if full-day or part-day)
Tens: 0 1	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	White ■ Other	Male Female	Yes (Ask 36) No (End questions)	Public ■ Private (Include parochial) (Ask 37)	Nursery: Full-day / Part-day. Kindergarten: Full-day / Part-day. Elementary or secondary (Grade): E1 E2 E3 E4 E5 E6 E7 E8 H1 H2 H3 H4. ■ Special School (Specify type)
Units: 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9						

FOURTH CHILD 0-13 YEARS OLD

25. Line number	27. Age last birthday	29. Race	30. Sex	35. Is ... attending or enrolled in school?	36. Is it a public or a private school?	37. What grade is ... attending? (If nursery or kindergarten, ask if full-day or part-day)
Tens: 0 1	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	White ■ Other	Male Female	Yes (Ask 36) No (End questions)	Public ■ Private (Include parochial) (Ask 37)	Nursery: Full-day / Part-day. Kindergarten: Full-day / Part-day. Elementary or secondary (Grade): E1 E2 E3 E4 E5 E6 E7 E8 H1 H2 H3 H4. ■ Special School (Specify type)
Units: 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9						

FIFTH CHILD 0-13 YEARS OLD

25. Line number	27. Age last birthday	29. Race	30. Sex	35. Is ... attending or enrolled in school?	36. Is it a public or a private school?	37. What grade is ... attending? (If nursery or kindergarten, ask if full-day or part-day)
Tens: 0 1	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	White ■ Other	Male Female	Yes (Ask 36) No (End questions)	Public ■ Private (Include parochial) (Ask 37)	Nursery: Full-day / Part-day. Kindergarten: Full-day / Part-day. Elementary or secondary (Grade): E1 E2 E3 E4 E5 E6 E7 E8 H1 H2 H3 H4. ■ Special School (Specify type)
Units: 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9						

RELATED NCES PUBLICATIONS

OE 73-11701	Education Directory, 1972-73; Public School Systems
HE 5.220:20079-71	Preprimary Enrollment, October 1971
OE 73-11406	Bond Sales for Public School Purposes, 1971-72
OE 73-11407	Expenditures and Revenues for Public Elementary and Secondary Education, 1970-71
OE 73-11402	Statistics of Public Elementary and Secondary Day Schools, Fall 1971
HE 5.220:20020-68	Statistics of State School Systems, 1967-68
OE 73-11702	Preliminary Statistics of State School Systems, 1969-70
HE 5.220:20191	Statistics of Public and Nonpublic Elementary and Secondary Day Schools, 1968-69
HE 5.220:20112	Statistics of Local Public School Systems, Fall 1969: Pupils and Staff
HE 5.222:22027-69	Statistics of Local Public School Systems, 1968-69: Finances
HE 5.222:22028	Finances of Large City School Systems, 1967-68: A Comparative Analysis
	Directory, Elementary and Secondary Day Schools, 1968-69
HE 5.220:20126-I	Volume I, Public, North Atlantic Region
HE 5.220:20126-II	Volume II, Public, Great Lakes and Plains Region
HE 5.220:20126-III	Volume III, Public, Southeast Region
HE 5.220:20126-IV	Volume IV, Public, West and Southwest Region
HE 5.220:20126-V	Volume V, Nonpublic
OE 73-11400	Patterns of Course Offerings and Enrollments in Public Secondary Schools, 1970-71